

[54] **STENT FOR USE FOLLOWING BALLOON ANGIOPLASTY**

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[58] Field of Search ..... 623/1, 12, 66; 128/341, 128/343, 745, 324 R, DIG. 22, 303 R; 604/272, 273, 274; 427/2

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A stent for implanting in a blood vessel following balloon angioplasty to prevent restenosis. The stent is a helical coil of a shape memory alloy tape or wire. The coil has a diameter less than that of the blood vessel in which it is to be implanted. The tape or wire has previously been wound to form a helical coil having a diameter equal to or slightly greater than the inside diameter of said blood vessel, this coil is then heated to an elevated temperature for a time sufficient to fix the shape of the second mentioned coil in the memory of the tape or wire, cooled to ambient temperature and then re-wound to form the first mentioned helical coil.

**5 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet**

